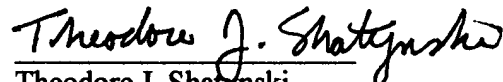


S.N. 09/254,407  
JJM-399

**REMARKS**

Applicants have made the foregoing amendments to place the claims in better condition for appeal by addressing the Examiner's claim rejections under 35 USC §112. Claim 16 is deleted without prejudice due to the Examiner's lack of unity objection. A Notice of Appeal is concurrently submitted with the correspondence.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Theodore J. Shatynski  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 36,676

Johnson & Johnson  
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza  
New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003  
(732) 524-2498  
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